

CARES Act small business grants: Application period extended, maximum award increased

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The City of Dayton has extended the application period for the Small Business Capital Grants program to Friday, Sept. 25, and has increased the maximum potential award to \$15,000.

The City is seeking proposals from eligible small businesses to help with expenses related to meeting health and safety requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant program is made possible by federal CARES Act funding received by the City of Dayton.

The Dayton COVID-19 Small Business Capital Grants Program will help businesses with new expenses related to facility improvements needed to meet health and safety standards, such as building materials, permanent or temporary seating areas (including outdoor areas), and furnishings/fixtures.

Eligible businesses must be located within the Dayton city limits and must not be part of national chain. Street-level retailers, restaurants, bars, coffee shops, salons and barbers are some of the small businesses that are encouraged to consider the grant program.

Grants of up to \$15,000 will assist with the costs of installing new or altering existing spaces to meet public health guidelines for social distancing. The application period began Aug. 26 and continues through Sept. 25. The total funding pool is \$200,000.

Other sources have provided small businesses with operating expenses during the pandemic, but those funds were generally limited to costs such as rent and payroll, which are not qualifying expenses under the Dayton grant program.

For more information, including application instructions, go to daytonohio.gov/smallbusinesscares, or email Susan Vincent.

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